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Gatlinburg Police Department Earns State Accreditation

GATLINBURG – The Gatlinburg Police Department is one of the initial agencies in the State to earn its certification in the Tennessee Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.

GPD Chief Randy Brackins accepted the Certificate of Meritorious Accreditation from Morristown Police Chief Roger Overholt in a ceremony in front of the Gatlinburg City Commission and City Manager Cindy Cameron Ogle on November 16, completing the State process which included an on-site assessment of the Gatlinburg Police Department.

"The State accreditation process provides comprehensive guidelines that can be used to evaluate and improve agency management systems and operation," said Overholt, who served as Team Leader of the Gatlinburg assessment process. "The program consists of 152 standards which cover nine major areas of management, operations and high risk events."

The Professional Standards Committee of the Tennessee Association of Police Chiefs oversees the accreditation process.

"This state certification demonstrates our commitment to professional law enforcement and to our community and the citizens we serve and protect," said Brackins.

"We are proud of this designation and the fact that our police department is one of the first Police Departments in Tennessee to complete the requirements and be recognized," said Ogle.